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NEWS RELEASE

July 26, 2002

Contact: Bryn Burns, EOS communications director, (406) 243-6703, bburns@eoscenter.com.

SACAJAWEA STATE PARK WELCOMES 'SERGEANT PATRICK GASS'

MISSOULA, Mont. —

A little-known member of the Lewis and Clark expedition, Sgt. Patrick Gass, will emerge from the mists of time to discuss the Corps of Discovery's epic trek from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Sacajawea State Park.

Gass, portrayed by historian Gary Lentz, will describe the methods and instruments used by William Clark to measure the Snake and Columbia rivers, will provide an overview of what the corps did while in the vicinity of Sacajawea State Park and will give a tour of the visitor center. His presentation is free and open to the public.

Gass is best remembered for his detailed journal entries and commanding the building of forts in North Dakota and Washington, as well as constructing canoes and repairing other items the Lewis and Clark expedition needed.

The event is being sponsored by NASA's Earth Observing System Education Project, an organization based at The University of Montana that disseminates Earth science imagery and curricula to the global educational community. Lentz's presentation is part of the project's Lewis and Clark Summer Institute, a weeklong program that trains teachers how to rediscover the trail using educational technologies.

For more information, contact the education project's Bryn Burns at (800) 341-0411 or bburns@eoscenter.com.

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